GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5833
ANSWERED ON:17.05.2007
DHRUV HELICOPTERS
Sugavanam Shri E.G.

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the advanced light helicopter, Dhruv was stopped from flying few years ago;

(b) if so, reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Hindustan Aeronautics Limited proposes to bring back Dhruv helicopters in the skies;

(d) if so, the details thereof and salient features thereof; and

(e) the time by which it is proposed to be re-introduced for flying?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR DEFENCE PRODUCTION (RAO INDERJEET SINGH)

(a) & (b): Owing to an incident of forced landing of a Dhruv helicopter in November, 2005 due to failure of its tail rotor blade, Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) advised its customers to withhold flying of Dhruv helicopters till the cause of the incident is investigated by a Board of Inquiry (BoI).

(c) to (e): The tail rotor blades of all the Dhruv helicopters delivered to the Indian Armed forces till the date of incident have been replaced by HAL as per the recommendations of the BoI. The helicopters have started flying since February, 2006.